

Message Text

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47

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 EB-11 FBIE-00 DOTE-00

FAA-00 IO-12 M-03 SS-14 SY-07 USSS-00 CIAE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

USIA-12 JUSE-00 RSR-01 INRE-00 /117 W

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P R 161158 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1508

JHRC CLARK AFB PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USDEL/ FPJMC PW/ SGN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4248

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, TH , CGEN

SUBJECT: RETURNEE BOBBY JOE KEESEE

REF: BANGKOK 4091

1. SUMMARY: BANGKOK PRESS CONTINUES PLAY UP KEESEE RETURN. " BANGKOK POST REPORTS DEPRIMIN PRAPHAT RESPONDED TO QUERIES THAT THAI POLICE WILL CONSIDER STEPS AGAINST KEESEE IN REGARD CLAIMS AGAINST HIM BY TWO AIR CHARTER FIRMS, BUT NO APPROACH YET MADE TO EMBASSY. ACTION REQUESTED: INFO FROM KEESEE DEBRIEFS ON HIS INTENTIONS RE CLAIMS, WHICH MAY BE USEFUL IN RESPONDING TO POSSIBLE APPROACHES BY EITHER AIR CHARTER FIRMS OR RTG ELEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. BANGKOK ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS CONTINUES TO FRONT PAGE WIRE SERVICE REPORTS ON KEESEE RETURN AND 1970 HIJACKING TO NVN, MIXED WITH COMMENTS MADE BY INTERESTED PARTIES HERE.

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3. MARCH 15 BANGKOK NATION REPORTS PRESS CONFERENCE BY PRINCE BIRBHONGSE BHANUBANDH, PROPRIETOR OF BIRA AIR TRANSPORT COMPANY WHOSE PLANE INVOLVED IN HIJACK. PRINCE BIRA REPORTEDLY STATED THAT HE WILL SEEK LAW SUIT AND CHARGE KEESEE " WITH TWO COUNTS- HIJACKING MY PLANE AND FAILING TO PAY \$1,509.83 CHARTER FEE-- PLUS \$452.95 INTEREST ...". BIRA REPORTEDLY SAID HE WILL ASK RTG TO EXTRA-DITE KEESEE.

4. SAME DAY BANGKOK POST REPORTED THAT SECOND AIR CHARTER FIRM, SAHAKOL AIR, HAS CLAIM AGAINST KEESEE OF BAHT 30,000 (ABOUT \$1,500). THIS ALLEGEDLY INCURRED PRIOR TO HIJACK.

5. MARCH 16 POST REPORTS THAT IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERY, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRAPHAT (IN HIS CAPACITY AS DIRECTOR- GENERAL POLICE DEPARTMENT) STATED THAT " POLICE WILL CONSIDER TAKING STEPS TO INSTITUTE LEGAL ACTION IF BIRA AIR TRANSPORT COMPANY" SO PETITIONS. POST SAYS PRAPHAT CONTINUED THAT " COMPANY HAS RIGHT TO SUE FOR COMPENSATION..."

6. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET BEEN APPROACHED BY EITHER COMPANY OR BT RTG, AND PRESS ATTACHE HAS SO STATED ON BACKGROUND WHEN QUERIED. WE ANTICIPATE THAT SUCH AN APPROACH MAY OCCUR. WHETHER THIS WILL ULTIMATELY LEAD TO EXTRADITION REQUEST UNKNOWN. BUT INFORMATION THAT KEESEE OR FAMILY INTEND TO REPAY ALLEGED DEBTS COULD HELP FORESTALL REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION OR CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS WHICH MIGHT ENSUE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: FOR REASONS OUTLINED ABOVE, REQUEST INFORMATION ON KEESEE DEBRIEFINGS WITH PARTICULAR REGARD TO INTENTIONS RE CLAIMS.
UNGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: RETURNEE BOBBY JOE KEESEE
TAGS: CGEN, MOPS, TH
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CINCPAC
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JHRC CLARK AFB
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